<u>REMARKS</u>

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated April 3, 2008. Claims 10 to 29 and 32 are in the application, with Claim 10 being independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

The abstract was objected to for including the phrase "disclosed herein". Applicants have amended the abstract to attend to this matter.

Applicants note with appreciation that Claims 10 to 29 and 32 have been allowed. Claim 10 has been amended merely to attend to a formal matter. No other changes have been made to the allowed claims. Accordingly, Claims 10 to 29 and 32 are believed to remain in condition for allowance.

Claim 31 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,665,491 (Tomiyama). Claim 31 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, and without conceding the correctness of the rejection, and strictly to obtain an earlier allowance.

Applicants have not yet received an indication that the documents cited in the April 8, 2004 Information Disclosure Statement have been considered. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner indicate such consideration by returning an initialed copy of the Form PTO-1449 that accompanied the Information Disclosure Statement.

No other matters being raised, the entire application is believed to be fully in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

No fees are believed due; however, should it be determined that additional fees are required, the Director is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account 06-1205.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

/Damond E. Vadnais/
Damond E. Vadnais
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 52,310

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3800
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

FCHS_WS 2235352v1